Moldova 2030 SDGs Fund
COVID-19 Response and Recovery Window

THE FUND
The Moldova 2030 SDGs Multi-Partner Trust Fund (http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/MD100) was established in 2018 to support the implementation of the UN Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development (UNPFSD) 2018-2022, contributing to the achievement of the sustainable development goals across priority areas.

PURPOSE OF THE NEW WINDOW
To address the COVID-19 pandemic, the UNCT Moldova created the Moldova COVID-19 Response and Recovery Window under the Moldova 2030 SDGs Multi-Partner Trust Fund. The new Window is a pooled funding instrument targeted for COVID-19 related actions, which is offering the possibility for development partners to contribute funds in a pooled mechanism. This will allow a rapid and efficient disbursement of funds to implement actions and procure essential supplies and services, as well as design and implement medium-term recovery interventions.

The theory of change of the Fund Window is focused in supporting the Government of Moldova to tackle the health emergency as well as to address the social and economic impact of the pandemic in the social and economic sectors. Additionally, it aims to reduce the country’s vulnerability to the pandemic allowing a transparent and effective recovery process. The Window complements and will also contribute to the World Health Organization (WHO)’s Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan.

Through this Window the Fund supports the three objectives of the UN Secretary-General’s Call for Solidarity, a Call for global action to stop the COVID-19 pandemic and the suffering it has caused. The UN SG Call’s objectives include:

1. Tackle the health emergency;
2. Focus on the social impact, and the economic responses and recovery; and
3. Help countries recover better.

COVID-19 WINDOW SCOPE
The new COVID-19 Response and Recovery Window opened within this Fund, comes to support the joint actions taken by the national government and United Nations in Moldova through financing of projects aligned with the Moldova COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan as well as complementary sectoral plans.
The main purpose of the Fund’s COVID-19 Window is to ensure that the Government of the Republic of Moldova and its people benefit from coordinated social, economic and healthcare actions to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak and its consequences.

The Fund relies on the collaborative advantages of the UN system to expand partnership opportunities and develop coherent development frameworks. Fund programmes rely on the timely administration of resources, improved collaboration, cost and risk reduction, the strategic alignment of development priorities, and consolidation of expertise to achieve integrated and contextually-relevant results.

Figure 1: Programmatic priorities of the UN Moldova COVID-19 Partnership Window

**IMPACT**

The Government of the Republic of Moldova and its people successfully overcome the immediate and long-term adverse health, social and economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic

**INDICATORS**

- Limit the rate of a possible increase in the number of people below the poverty line
- The number of SDG target indicators remaining on track
- The Government of the Republic of Moldova has suppressed transmission of the virus

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<th>Output 5.1</th>
<th>Output 5.2</th>
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<td>The healthcare system and other relevant authorities and stakeholders in Moldova have improved capacities, means and instruments for a rapid response to the gaps, needs and priorities in connection with the outbreak of the pandemic</td>
<td>The social and economic consequences of the outbreak of the pandemic on affected sectors, areas and vulnerable groups are effectively addressed through targeted policy, technical assistance and support</td>
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**INDICATORS**

- Number of tested people on COVID-19
- Number of treated and recovered COVID-19 infected people
- Number of supported COVID-19 healthcare facilities

- Number of successfully developed and enacted policy instruments focused on COVID-19 recovery
- Number of people from various vulnerable groups and institutions benefiting from social and economic support and recovery actions
STRATEGIC APPROACH

The Moldova COVID-19 Response and Recovery Window supports integrated resource mobilization and allocation of pooled government and donor resources. Investments promote the design and implementation of strategic, integrated activities for COVID-19 response while also accelerating the Sustainable Development Goals.

Operational procedures of the UN Entities are streamlined to facilitate rapid fund allocation processes. The Fund is designed to offer fast and flexible finance to meet the shifting demands of this rapidly developing and multidimensional global crisis.

The Moldova COVID-19 Window ensures:

- A **ONE UN and coherent response** that links different interventions and channels resources through a common funding mechanism built on specific UN Agency mandates, operational strengths, programmatic offers and existing procedures;
- **Rapid resource allocation** enabling effective and prompt response;
- **Strong alignment to the GoM needs** and identify priorities for the COVID-19 response;
- A **tested and successful model** that offers a transparent, accountable and cost-effective financial instrument with all fund information accessible **on-line and in real-time**;
- Innovation and **rapid data-driven solutions** with a whole-of-government approach;
- A **results-based management system** through which the Fund's contribution to the COVID-19 response can be monitored; and
- A **transparent and accountable** pooling of resources that strengthens risk management for all stakeholders.

GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

**Fund Steering Committee.** Co-chaired by the State Chancellery and UN Moldova, the Steering Committee provides general oversight of the Fund and oversees the allocation of non-earmarked resources according to priority areas, internal standard operating procedures and defined criteria. Committee members manage investments and approve, as required, the reallocation of funds to joint programmes based on priorities. The Steering Committee reviews and approves progress reports on the implementation of joint workplans and signs off on Fund extensions and updates to the terms of reference, as required.

**Joint Programme Steering Committee/Technical Board.** Comprised of representatives from United Nations organizations and government, donor, and civil society partners, the Board approves joint programme documents, makes programme extension and allocation recommendations, requests fund transfers, and oversees the entire programme implementation process.

**Administrative Agent.** Participating Organizations receive funds through the
Administrative Agent, the MPTF Office. The Administrative Agent is responsible for the receipt, administration and management of contributions from donors, disbursement of funds to Participating Organizations, and consolidation and dissemination of progress reports to donors.

**Participating Organizations.** Programme implementation is the responsibility of UN Participating Organizations (UN Agencies). Each organization is programmatically and financially responsible for resources received.

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*The COVID-19 Window will undergo the same governance processes as the Fund, however it will be sought, where possible, to streamline the flows and speed-up the decision making and follow-up.*

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**CONTRIBUTIONS**

Governments, donors and other development partners can contribute to the Fund. Contributors are encouraged to provide non-earmarked contributions. If due to specific donor preferences, the un-earmarked contributions are not feasible, donors may earmark their contributions to a particular outcome.

- **Non-earmarked funds** – allocation and utilization of the funds will be decided by the Fund’s Steering Committee based on Fund’s programmatic priorities and needs,
- **Earmarked funds** – funds are disbursed and used upon agreed with the donor specific outcomes

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Figure 2: Trust Fund Process